

Time Varying Voltages and Inductors

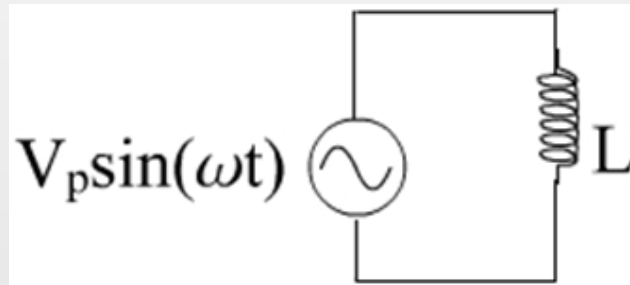
AC Circuits

● Time Varying Voltages and Inductors

- “Out-of-Phase?” for Inductor
- Inductive Reactance
- Properties of Inductive Reactance
- Adding up voltages (currents) in AC circuits

Phasors

- Consider an inductor (L) connected in series with an alternating voltage ($V_P \sin \omega t$) as shown below.



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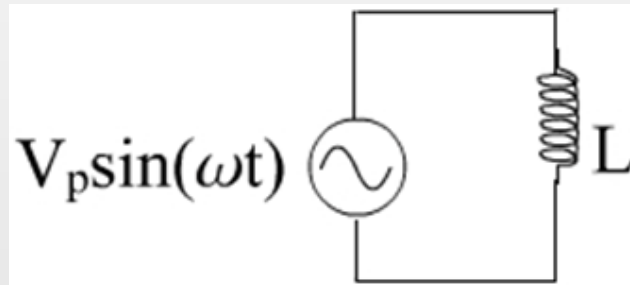
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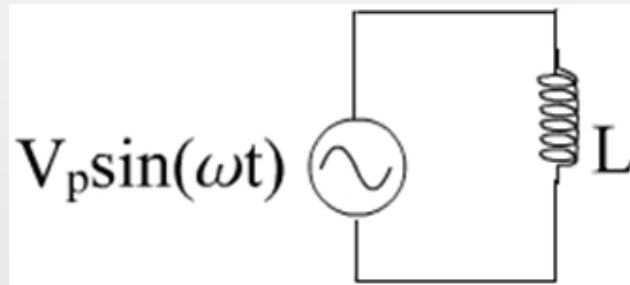
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$$V(t) = L \frac{dI}{dt}$$

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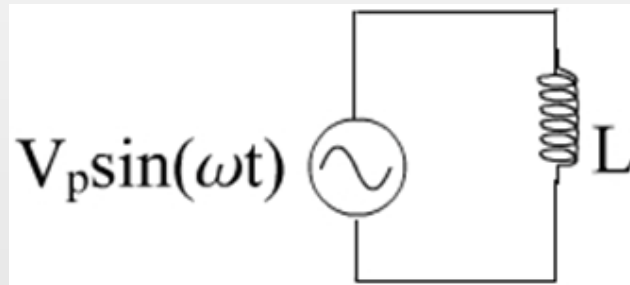
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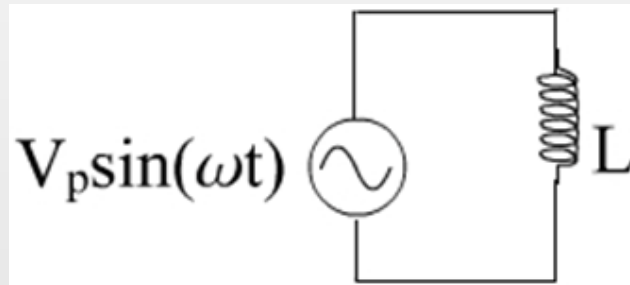
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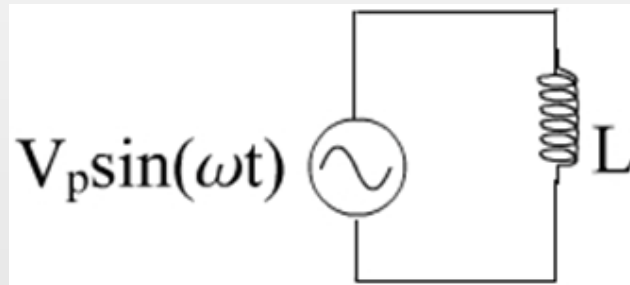
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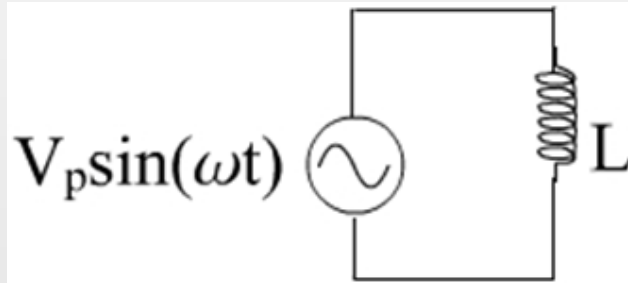
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- The current through a inductor is “out-of-phase” with the driving voltage source.

“Out-of-Phase?” for Inductor

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- The time dependent voltage was given by

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- From trigonometry:

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$$I(t) = -\frac{V_P}{\omega L} \cos \omega t$$

- From trigonometry:

$$-\cos \omega t = \sin \left(\omega t - \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

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$$V(t) = V_P \sin \omega t$$

- The current through the inductor is given by

$$I(t) = \frac{V_P}{\omega L} (-\cos \omega t) \rightarrow \frac{V_P}{\omega L} \sin \left(\omega t - \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

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 - Current lags behind the driving voltage by 90° .

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- The peak current through the capacitor is $I_P = \frac{V_P}{\omega L}$

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 - This resembles Ohm's Law with $I_P = \frac{V_P}{\chi_L}$

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$$I(t) = \frac{V_P}{\omega L} \sin\left(\omega t - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

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 - Current lags behind the driving voltage by 90° .
- The peak current through the capacitor is $I_P = \frac{V_P}{\omega L}$
 - This resembles Ohm's Law with $I_P = \frac{V_P}{\chi_L}$
 - The term $\chi_L = \omega L$ has a unit of Ohm and is called inductive reactance (χ_L)

Properties of Inductive Reactance

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- The reactance for an inductor describes the behavior of a inductor placed in a circuit with a time-varying voltage source.

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$$\chi_L = \omega L$$

- When ω is large, χ_L is large so the inductor offers greater “resistance” to current flow.

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- When ω is small, χ_L is small so the inductor offers less “resistance” to current flow.
- χ_L is NOT the same as resistance because NO POWER IS DISSIPATED THROUGH A INDUCTOR.

Adding up voltages (currents) in AC circuits

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- When several components are connected in *series*, their potential differences add.

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- Adding sines and cosines of differing amplitude *and phases* is algebraically awkward.

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 - We could graphically add up the potentials (or currents) (THINK VECTORS).
 - This method for adding up potentials (or currents) is called “Phasor analysis”

Phasors

AC Circuits

Phasors

● Phasors

- Any quantity that has a harmonic time dependence can be associated with a *rotating* vector known as a **phasor**.

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- [Click here for phasor animation.](#)